

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5203
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27TH MARCH, 2018

PRODUCTION OF SAFFRON

5203. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of saffron is on the decline in the country due to improper cultivable conditions and lack of proper facilities;
- (b) if so, the annual production of saffron for the past five years and the demand of Indian saffron in the international market; and
- (c) whether the Government is considering to provide better facilities and financial help to the saffron growers in order to increase the production and thereby increase its export?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): The production of Saffron is not on decline as corrective and innovative practices are being implemented under National Saffron Mission through Department of Agriculture Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu and ICAR- Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar.

(b): Annual production of saffron for the last five years is given as below:

Year	Total Production of Saffron (MTs)
2013-14	22.654
2014-15	8.51*
2015-16	27.908
2016-17	28.64
2017-18**	9.12**

*Production affected due to floods

** Dry spell during critical stage

The demand of Indian Saffron has increased in the international market due to presence of high quality active components like Crocine, Picrocrocine, Safranal.

(c): Government of India is financially supporting saffron growers through National Saffron Mission for improving the productivity, production and thereby increase export of Saffron. Government of India has also sanctioned a State of Art Spice/Saffron Park at Dusoo, Pulwama in Jammu & Kashmir, for providing improved facilities of grading, packaging, e-auctioning & certification of Saffron which would give a boost to the export of Indian Saffron.
